

CE WORLDWIDE LOGISTICS CONFERENCE CRITIQUE SUMMARY

A total of 73 critiques were collected from the conference. Following is a summary of the responses to as well as the additional comments made by the attendees.

1. The conference goals/objectives were realistic and clearly defined:

Strongly Agree:	38
Agree:	33
Neither agree nor disagree:	1
Disagree:	0
Strongly Disagree:	1

2. This workshop was facilitated and conducted in a professional manner.

Strongly Agree:	51
Agree:	21
Neither agree nor disagree:	1
Disagree:	0
Strongly Disagree:	0

3. The right people attended the conference.

Strongly Agree:	44
Agree:	20
Neither agree nor disagree:	7
Disagree:	1
Strongly Disagree:	1

4. The briefings were beneficial and well-presented.

Strongly Agree:	36
Agree:	35
Neither agree nor disagree:	2
Disagree:	0
Strongly Disagree:	0

5. The hands-on training sessions were beneficial and well-presented.

Strongly Agree:	30
Agree:	32
Neither agree nor disagree:	9
Disagree:	1
Strongly Disagree:	0

6. The group as a whole accomplished the objectives.

Strongly Agree:	31
Agree:	35
Neither agree nor disagree:	7
Disagree:	0
Strongly Disagree:	0

7. You'd volunteer to attend future conferences/workshops.

Strongly Agree:	61
Agree:	11
Neither agree nor disagree:	0
Disagree:	1
Strongly Disagree:	1

8. The support provided for the workshop was adequate (facilities, billeting, eating, transportation etc).

Strongly Agree:	37
Agree:	16
Neither agree nor disagree:	9
Disagree:	8
Strongly Disagree:	1

COMMENTS:

1. Suggest setting up tables with chairs. Would be more comfortable sitting. With the big binders and closer quarters I think tables would be better.

2. Training sessions could have had addressed problems that have been reported from other bases on the CEMAS system.

3. Billeting was excellent.

4. I feel if we have a funds representative here and a funds manager from CE to get the correct aspect of their job and what they should be doing as a funds manager.

5. I'm very much interested in the formal training class for the newly assigned individuals assigned to CE. Although I am on my way out the door, a formal training class will be not only beneficial to the individual, but to the squadron as well.

6. I don't feel that most people participate(d) as much as they would have liked to due the fears of being laughed (lack of a better word) at. We are all professionals, and need to act as such.

7. We need tables; this is pretty hard on the back sitting 4 hrs and too close in together.
8. I noticed that some people raised their hands and would be bi-pass. People would just start talking. That needs to be address – more order. Then whenever someone had the floor, there would be some folks talking, making hard to hear the question or the answer.
9. I learn and some things were clear – however needed to have more of the computer when explaining CEMAS.
10. Over all it was a good workshop. Thanks to all who put it together.
11. Fantastic! Great opportunity to exchange ideas/concerns.
12. Maybe next time request beforehand what areas we would like to discuss/train and make it more structured.
13. “Old timers” seem to steal the show, discussing issues not useful to the rest of the audience. A lot of the attendees are new and need fundamentals.
14. Too much time spend “complaining” by attendees. I understand this issue is kind of hard to control.
15. Formal CEMAS training needed for newly assigned logistics personnel.
16. Overall it was good to meet our counterparts from other bases. We can now compare our programs to others.
17. I would be very interested in formal CEMAS training. I also feel that many people spent to much time complaining and less on constructive solutions. More time needed to be spent on questions and not complaints. But overall I feel that the conference was a success and I learned a lot of valuable information that we can apply to our base.
Thanks!
18. Lodging was adequate – room was canceled at Holiday Inn big disappointed knowing we were coming.
19. Separating COCESS and GOCESS was good. Each base is unique – but we need standardization for all on what our roles/responsibilities are (standardize CEMAS). The hands-on training was great.
20. IMPAC rules/regs need to be defined for CE as unique. Raise our single purchase limit!! The laws need to be pushed higher to Congress (whoever) so we may do our jobs w/o “splitting” requirements.
21. Thanks for all the hard work on this conference and continuing support every day.

22. Needed to have a microphone for speakers.
23. More time should be allowed for hotter topics.
24. Breakout COCESS and GOCESS topics was a smart move.
25. My only recommendation is that there be more open discussion of topics by small groups. For example, break area down into 4 sections with a different subject in each area. Allow attendees to choose area of interest. This conference was based on this format but each group was too large.
26. With command representation dwindling away we need to have more of these type conferences. Networking will be our only way of getting good info on business practices.
27. Overall the organizers should be commended for the efforts spent putting this conference together. The main objective of getting the Logistics together was definitely accomplished.
28. I feel that the logistics personnel attended but that is not the only personnel that should attend. Perhaps we should look at a larger facility and open it to other personnel that highly affect our job. A lot of issues addressed and a lot of our problems getting our job done as a result of other sections such as Budget and Contracting. If these people could attend, they could hear some of the concerns expressed from the Supply/Logistics community. They should be invited to attend.
29. The IMPAC briefer should have been allotted more time since this is one of the greatest concerns with the logistics community. The subjects/topics were great. Some briefings were too much about a particular base – did not control the audience and stick to a reasonable time.
30. The CEMAS training could have been more structured. Maybe a plan such as: 1st Session Funds & org codes, 2nd session Ordering parts, 3rd Session closing out, materials completed. It seems that a lot of time was spent discussing problems rather than actually accomplishing the training. The other training was fine.
31. Lodging – things happen and we cannot always control them. Perhaps next time someone can confirm reservations up to the last day?
32. Consider including more funds and IMPAC coordination attendees.
33. Concerned about the amount of training available for this new system (ACES?)
34. We interact with a lot of knowledgeable people and we will be acting out some of the information we have learned. Thank you for having this conference for all of us.

35. As I work within Ops I have a concern over ACES & feel more training must be given on this to explain the impact.
36. I found the Self-Help section most interesting and concerning as to the impact to Ops. Very good briefing.
37. IMPAC briefing was very good.
38. This conference was very good and beneficial. I think it is a must to keep these on-going, as we will all go back to our own bases with new and better ideas how to overcome some of our problems. This comes not only from the agenda/speakers but talking amongst ourselves and learning how other bases go about their business.
39. The funds lady was outstanding; the contracting person had lots of info. Great job! Hopefully funding will allow future get-togethers like this.
40. Since each base is different, it is hard to brief what is only used at different bases. By talking to the others here it is apparent that there is no set procedures for GOCESS bases or COCESS bases. I am not saying this is bad because each base has to adapt to the mission, facilities and personnel at the base. It seems that most bases have problems with Contracting and Funds and CEV.
41. Andrews AFB billeting office is very inefficient. After the Holiday Inn fiasco I still had to return twice to get my non-availability certificate.
42. The briefers were awesome! This entire conference was very informational and well planned and executed. My hats off to all involved. From a first time working with CE, assigned at a remote location, this opportunity to attend was greatly needed. Wish it would've been held six months ago. Unfortunately I may not get a chance to have another CE assignment, but I will take all that I've learned and apply it for my last five months.
43. Too many side meeting while a specific area is being briefed by someone.
44. During the Hazmart briefing there were two meetings going on at the same time.
45. You know the problem with billeting but it was resolved to my satisfaction.
46. Facility – more enclosed. Lots of background noise.
47. Need to provide more clear direction on effort being made to provide training to loggies. Need to encourage standardization of work processes instead of just allowing each base to make its own way. Need to allow options but encourage standardization.
48. Need to invite funds managers to attend part of the conference so they can better understand their responsibilities and how what they do affects logistics.

49. Need to encourage more senior level involvement – unless there is support at the top levels the logistics program will not be as effective as it otherwise could be.
50. Billeting provided non-availability slips for some of the attendees and set a block of room reservations yet the rooms were not held at the Holiday Inn – this required some people to scramble to find rooms.
51. Some attendees got lost from the airport to the base – need to provide maps to folks with clear and simple directions – do this at least 2 weeks in advance.
52. Great conference – great information interchange – need to do this again soon.
53. Good briefings: Contract policy, EMIS.
54. Recommendations: Reassess logistics training – update CBT to include IMPAC, Prime Vendor, and any other new processes to keep us informed. Microphone needed in order to hear presentation speaker & people in audience. To be informed when new appliance manual is published. CE Logistics Chief workshop @ AFIT be reinstated.
55. I truly appreciated the opportunity to attend this workshop. The guest speakers & presenters were knowledgeable & professional in their presentations.
56. I believe the greatest opportunity for me was to meet Logistic Chiefs from other bases & commands. Networking is a valuable asset as it gleans the experience & knowledge of logistics personnel.
57. My accomodations at the Holiday Inn are extremely comfortable. Thanks.
58. Very disappointed in billeting availability and the customer service was inconsistent. I don't appreciate being put off to the side for phone calls and helping a Major who came in after me, but was helped before me.
59. The Officer's Club was a fine place, excellent service and food!!
60. Hope to get more information through the web/email on best ways to work within Logistics to ensure better communication and information on Supply functions in CE. Thanks for inviting me!
61. The IMPAC briefing was from too high of a position and couldn't relate to cardholder's concerns.
62. I understand that it wasn't the coordinator's fault concerning the hotel cancellations, but nevertheless it was a great inconvenience for someone coming from overseas.
63. Overall a great conference – a great chance to network/learn. I would do it again.

64. Need to give new Log Chiefs more training in the do's & don'ts of funds. We can blame funds managers all day long, but it's up to us to support CEMAS funds requirements. The more Log Chiefs know about funding, the better they are to do their job & help funds mgrs with CEMAS-related money problems. Areas such as MORD, AF Form 4009 & ABSS system etc are areas where additional training would be extremely beneficial. Just a thought!

64. Valuable sessions: Contracting (not enough time), Funds, Prime Vendor.

65. Funds & Material Acquisition should have a joint conference. Logistics personnel are doing too much of Funds and are not being given credit. Funds personnel need to be educated to CEMAS.

65. DLA Prime Vendor conference to discuss problems.

66. Core Position Description for Chiefs of Logistics at the GS-9 level.

67. Update CBT Training.

68. Icebreaker was terrific and food was great. Outstanding conference.

69. I believe everything was set up in an outstanding manner – however the airmen @ billeting could use some training in customer service, as well as what their responsibilities entail. I was provided a map to a hotel that had changed names & was left standing while they accepted telephone calls & completed transactions for the calling individuals in lieu of placing them on hold & finishing the business at hand with me. One of them actually excused herself from helping me to go over to help a Major. I don't believe that was appropriate! Other than the turmoil that began with rooms being canceled, we ultimately ended up with very nice accommodations!

70. The group was too large to allow for interaction and discussions. I feel that often the discussions are as informative as the actual presentation. However it was still a valuable learning experience.

71. Future conferences should focus on CEMAS enhancements and not be so opinionated!!

72. As a contractor, I feel no one wanted to hear how well my area is doing. The main thing I got out of this conference was the people (great) & that as a contractor I don't have all the problems the rest of the people have.

73. IMPAC person was great but they need to set standards for all to follow.

74. Hands-on wasn't really needed. I asked about report writing and was told he really wasn't good enough at it.

75. Billeting should have been more accountable for our billets – it would have been great if we could have all been put together instead of last minute spreading us out on our own.

76. Hopefully even though I am a contractor I will be invited to more & the government will let me come.

77. Great conference!!! Too bad we can't do this more frequently!

78. Would it be possible to develop an AFCESA web page for posting questions bases may have regarding CEMAS/Prime Vendor/ACES etc?

79. I didn't need any of the info from the appliance briefing. Tough call for the most helpful briefing – there were several. I probably got the most from the CEMAS training and Prime Vendor briefings.

80. I would like to see funds people attend the conference. Also go more in depth into funds management.

81. Need to have a microphone available next time.

82. I have no idea of all the work behind the scenes that went into putting this conference together. I know it was a lot. Thanks for all your efforts that went into making this conference possible!

82. Needed more hands on. CBT should be updated.

83. More time should have been allotted for IMPAC, CEMAS and Hazmart. Too much time taken for Prime Vendor. With the rapid changes in purchasing there are many alternatives (?) to choose from – what could make a large impact is to have single purchase limits increased for CE purchases. Overall, enjoyed and would like to attend another session.

83. We need some type of formal training for new employees.

84. I was hoping for some guidance on how to get away from COCESS. Didn't really see it! Ops Chief has given PK letter stating intent not to renew - ? What would be my best avenue to pursue on new system if we can get away from COCESS.

85. IMPAC questions? Each base seems to be limited based on PK interpretation of the rules.

86. It would appear that Logistics Chiefs are held to different standards depending on "who" wants things done. Local commanders want things done in a timely manner. Everyone above that level wants things standardized and in compliance with current directives. The "current directives" seem to be as they interpret them.

87. Manning of AEF's takes most of my skilled leadership. These are the individuals who have some understanding of CEMAS. AEF teams don't use this CEMAS knowledge! Some CBT training for those left behind would be helpful. This conference has been helpful in knowing what is out there.

88. Contracting needs to be more supportive at every base. IMPAC & BCAS interpretations seem to downsize their workload & increase ours with no adjustment in manpower.

89. When are CE logistics folks going to be recognized for contracting & financial taskings added to duties (by upgrade, bonus etc)?

90. When you list unit or organization you should identify all, not just ACC, AETC, AMC. With have other bases out here also. Each & every base have a different mission & purpose.

91. I would like to see one about every 2 years.

92. It would be nice once a year to get logistics chiefs together for these type of discussions. These conferences are very information which gives Logistics Chiefs ideas to be more creative within CE.

93. Prime Vendor most important to me. Unfortunately all vendors not the same, should be universal throughout (but is not). One vendor will be more creative then another – another vendor wants you to do all the leg work and get their concession (?), however as a tool it is better than nothing.

AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST, my comments!

- All the billeting comments will be forwarded to Andrews Lodging office. Once again, sorry some rooms were canceled! Lesson learned – no matter what lodging tells you, call and guarantee your room just in case!
- For those who got lost on the freeway, sorry again! I tried to send maps to everyone from Reagan and Wash Nat'l, perhaps some didn't receive them.
- Our original intent was to have everyone at the same hotel and break up into smaller sessions, but we couldn't get a commitment from our first choice hotel. Perhaps next time SMSgt Day can find a more accomodating location!
- Sorry if I didn't get your comments exactly right – some of you were probably doctors in your previous life!
- Good idea (MSgt McMahon) about posting questions/comments on the web site – I'll pass it on! So, are there any questions/comments?
- Interesting to see how many want standardization; the problem is, few want to change how they're currently operating! Someone suggested we standardize by contracting out all the logisticians – what say you all?
- Finally, thanks AGAIN to everyone, participants and fellow coordinators, for making the conference what it was – a fantastic opportunity for all to meet,

greet, and network. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors – God
bless! Kathy Hoke